

From: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**
Sent: 6/13/2017 8:37:14 PM
To: Robinson, Valois [Robinson.Valois@epa.gov]
Subject: Deny Permits for Dewey-Burdock Uranium Mine

Dear EPA,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Underground Injection Control Program's Draft Permits for the Proposed Dewey-Burdock Uranium Mine and Deep Disposal Wells. I am writing to express my deep concern and objection to uranium mining in the Black Hills. My family has lived in the Black Hills on and off for six generations. These mountains are a unique and irreplaceable treasure for our country -- geologically, ecologically, historically, culturally and economically.

The proposed mine and deep disposal wells are in an area that is documented to have faults, fractures, breccia pipes, and over 7000 old boreholes that have not been properly plugged. It will be impossible to contain mining fluids or waste liquids, and contamination of groundwater resources is very likely.

I am also concerned that adequate oversight of the quality of liquid wastes pumped into the Minnelusa Formation through the proposed deep disposal wells will be inadequate, and groundwater is likely to be contaminated.

A full survey of cultural and historical sites is needed before mining or deep disposal is allowed. Cultural and historical sites must be protected.

The history of uranium mining indicates that uranium mining cannot be done without creating and leaving contamination. Groundwater has never been returned to its original condition at any In-Situ leach uranium mine in the U.S. These permits should not be issued until it can be demonstrated that groundwater resources will be protected.

I have spent time in the Cave Hills in northwestern South Dakota, where old uranium mines have been abandoned without proper clean up. The U.S. Forest Service has recorded dangerous radiation levels on the ground and in the water, and nearby towns have reported high levels of rare brain cancers and other serious health problems. There are few safeguards to prevent this from happening again in the Black Hills, where a much higher population could be exposed. Please do not allow this to occur again.

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